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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

August 21, 1945

Production Of 10 Out Of 15 Vegetable Seeds Indicated
Below March Expectations And Smaller Than 1944 Crops

Reports from commercial vegetable-seed growers during the last half of July and first half of August indicate that of the important vegetable seeds that are harvested relatively early, fewer acres of most of them will be harvested than were expected last March. However, yield per acre of 9 out of 15 may be larger than expected, and yields of 11 may be above those of 1944. Because of reductions in acreage, production of 11 kinds is indicated to be smaller this year than last. Decreases appear to be most marked for cauliflower, spinach, Swiss chard, rutabaga, loose-leaf lettuce, carrot, and cabbage. On the other hand, larger crops this year are in prospect for mangelwurzel, heading lettuce, onion, and romaine lettuce. Compared with the 5-year (1939-43) average, production this year of all except 5 kinds--spinach, romaine lettuce, Swiss chard, cauliflower, and wrinkled peas--is indicated to be larger.

The total number of acres of 14 kinds of vegetable seeds (excluding wrinkled peas) for harvest this year is indicated at 39,815 compared with 62,957 acres in 1944--a reduction of 37 percent. The prospective acreages for harvest of only mangelwurzel and onion exceed those of last year, with marked decreases for spinach, rutabaga, Swiss chard, and cabbage.

The mid-July condition of 12 out of 15 kinds was better this year than last. A condition above normal was indicated for 5 kinds--mangelwurzel, cabbage, radish, onion, and rutabaga. The lowest condition was reported for cauliflower. The good to very good condition of a majority of the vegetable seeds covered by this report is reflected in the prospective yields per acre, which are above average in 9 cases. Yields of 4, namely, mangelwurzel, carrot, onion, and radish, may be the largest in 7 years.

The foregoing statements pertaining to the 1945 acreage, production, and condition are based on comparisons made between the March survey and the special mid-July inquiries this year and last, together with acreage and production surveys for the years 1939-44. Reports in the current inquiry were received from nearly all the growers of most of the 15 kinds of seed, and represent the best judgment of these growers at the time they reported on the prospective acreage for harvest, production, and condition on July 15. Some of these crops, however, may turn out poorer or better than expected on that date.

Acreage, production, and condition of the 1944 and 1945 crops of 15 kinds of vegetable seeds are given in the table on the reverse side.

AUG 25 1945

(Over)

ACREAGE, PRODUCTION, AND CONDITION OF 15 VEGETABLE-SEED CROPS

| K I N D of S E E D | A c r e a g e | | | P r o d u c t i o n | | | Condition on | |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------|---------|---------------------|---------|--------|---------------|------|
| | 1945 | | | 1945 | | | July 15, 1944 | |
| | 1944 | March | July | 1944 | March | July | and 1945 as a | |
| | | survey | survey | | survey | survey | percentage of | |
| | A c r e s | | | 1,000 p o u n d s | | | 1944 | 1945 |
| | | | | | | | P e r c e n t | |
| Garden beet | 7,170 | 5,502 | 4,610 | 5,174 | 3,911 | 3,210 | 90 | 90 |
| Mangelwurzel. | 1,046 | 1,332 | 1,460 | 832 | 1,327 | 1,810 | 102 | 110 |
| Cabbage | 4,994 | 2,114 | 1,900 | 1,995 | 1,057 | 1,060 | 89 | 109 |
| Carrot. | 11,744 | 5,734 | 5,310 | 4,439 | 2,493 | 2,270 | 94 | 95 |
| Cauliflower | 327 | 110 | 130 | 140 | 42 | 35 | 86 | 72 |
| Swiss chard | 599 | 218 | 190 | 514 | 177 | 160 | 94 | 97 |
| Heading lettuce | 4,286 | 4,414 | 4,170 | 782 | 1,070 | 970 | 88 | 94 |
| Loose-leaf lettuce. . . | 1,904 | 693 | 925 | 675 | 280 | 330 | 90 | 92 |
| Romaine lettuce | 184 | 116 | 150 | 72 | 45 | 60 | 93 | 96 |
| Onion | 8,384 | 9,832 | 8,630 | 2,503 | 3,228 | 3,085 | 89 | 102 |
| Wrinkled peas | 104,732 | 120,630 | 101,100 | 91,916 | 116,798 | 87,320 | 90 | 86 |
| Radish. | 8,272 | 6,512 | 6,100 | 2,828 | 2,187 | 2,320 | 84 | 104 |
| Spinach | 4,656 | 1,334 | 1,160 | 2,974 | 860 | 750 | 83 | 92 |
| Turnip. | 7,066 | 5,027 | 4,380 | 4,051 | 3,549 | 3,160 | 82 | 93 |
| Rutabaga. | 2,325 | 799 | 700 | 1,466 | 646 | 570 | 76 | 101 |